YALSA’s Best Fiction for Young Adults Committee presents fiction titles published for young adults in the past 16 months that are recommended reading for ages 12 to 18. YALSA--The Young Adults Library Services Association--is a division of the American Library Association. Some titles may be available in e-formats. Check the catalog or ask a librarian for assistance.

Alexander, Kwame
The Door of No Return
J Alexander
Gr. 5 and up
In 1800’s Ghana, Kofi’s peaceful village life is disrupted when his brother accidentally kills a man in a wrestling match. Disaster follows when, despite the warnings of his elders, Kofi leaves the safety of his village to swim after dark.

Blum, Isaac
The Life and Crimes of Hoodie Rosen
YA Blum
Gr. 7 and up
When fifteen-year-old Hoodie Rosen and his Orthodox Jewish family move to a new town, Hoodie is shunned for hanging out with a non-Jewish girl while anti-Semitic hate crimes rise in town.

Ferguson, Jen
The Summer of Bitter and Sweet
YA Ferguson
Gr. 9 and up
Metis teen Lou finds her final summer before college upended by the return of a former best friend and the unexpected release from prison of her rapist biological father.

Giles, Lamar
The Getaway
YA Giles
Gr. 9 and up
In the near future, Jay works in Karloff Country, “the funnest place around,” where the rich and powerful come to escape the crumbling outside world, but when things turn sinister at the resort, he and his friends must fight to survive.

Henry, April
Gideon Green in Black and White
YA Henry
Gr. 8 and up
When Gideon Green was younger, he was an obnoxious boy detective. Now retired, but still obsessed with film noir, Gideon must put on his fedora again to help his former best friend, Lily.

Rogers, Andrea
Man Made Monsters
YA Rogers
Gr. 8 and up
A collection of horror short stories following a Cherokee family over generations as they encounter monsters and fantastical creatures ranging from vampires and were-wolves to creatures drawn from Cherokee oral tradition.

Sepetys, Ruta
I Must Betray You
YA Sepetys
Gr. 8 and up
Seventeen-year-old Cristian is forced to become an informant for the Romanian Securitate in order to help save his ailing grandfather but under Ceausescu's totalitarian regime, spies are everywhere and no one is safe.

Tahir, Sabaa
All My Rage
YA Tahir
Gr. 9 and up
Pakistani-American teens Salahudin and Noor have been best friends since childhood, but a fight drove them apart just when they needed each other the most. Now it's a tragedy that brings them back together.

Thomas, Aiden
The Sunbearer Trials
YA Thomas
Gr. 7 and up
Teo, seventeen-year-old trans son of Quetzal, goddess of birds, is one of the ten semi-idioses chosen to compete in The Sunbearer Trials, an event held to determine who will be sacrificed to light the temples of Reino del Sol.

http://www.ala.org/yalsa/2023-top-ten-best-fiction
(Accessed June 29, 2023)